

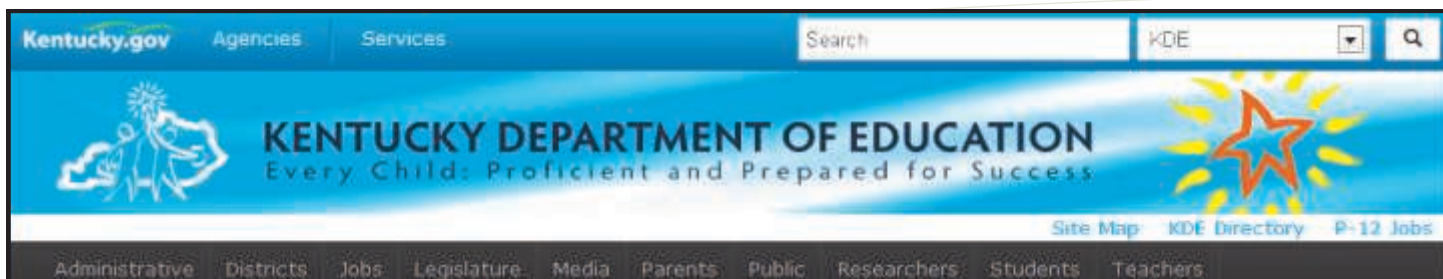


ARTS & HUMANITIES NEWS

Issue 7 | Volume 3 | October 2012

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

KDE launches redesigned web presence



The Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) launched a redesigned website that is designed to connect parents, educators, lawmakers and the public with the agency's vast compilation of data and information.

The new website address is the same – <http://www.education.ky.gov> – but the setup and navigation are redesigned dramatically.

“The goal of this change is to reach our various audiences more effectively,” said Kentucky Education Commissioner Terry Holliday. “The revamped site will help individuals find what they are seeking, depending on their interests or needs. The site also is set up in a logical sequence, so that visitors can

easily navigate through the many layers.”

The new KDE homepage provides links for specific audiences, such as administrators, media, students, parents and others. The page also highlights and links to KDE initiatives, such as college and career readiness, the Continuous Instructional Improvement Technology System (CIITS), Effective Teachers, Unbridled Learning and more. The homepage also provides links to education jobs, curriculum information, educational programs, school improvement and more. The Open House portal, which provides access to data about Kentucky's public school systems, remains a key component of the homepage.

KDE staff have been engaged in a cleanup of the site for the past few months, ensuring that all content posted is accurate and relevant.

While the homepage address remains the same, bookmarks and links to other pages and documents housed on the site have changed. KDE reminds visitors to the site to review any “old” bookmarks or links to ensure that they are updated.



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Governor proclaims October Arts and Humanities Month



In celebration of the important role Kentucky's artistic traditions and cultural heritage play in the state, Governor Steve Beshear has proclaimed October National Arts and Humanities Month (NAHM) in Kentucky, the Kentucky Arts Council announced.

The month-long celebration recognizes the influence arts and culture have in the state's past, present and future.

"The arts play a major role in telling Kentucky's unique cultural story from our earliest days," said Gov. Beshear. "National Arts and Humanities Month recognizes the Commonwealth's rich and vibrant artistic legacy."

Lori Meadows, executive director of the arts council, said Kentuckians have ample opportunity to celebrate arts and culture.

"Art and artists can be found in every Kentucky city and county," said Meadows. "Attend local arts events or exhibits. Visit a festival; go to a concert. Read a

book by a Kentucky author. Listen to music by a Kentucky musician. Use this month to discover art in your community and celebrate your own creativity."

The arts council has several events planned that coincide with NAHM, including:

- [American Craft Week Oct. 5-14](#) — join Kentucky Crafted Retailers in Indiana, Ohio and Kentucky in celebrating American Craft Week with special activities, demonstrations, open houses and promotions.
- [Governor's Awards in the Arts](#), Oct. 9, Capitol Rotunda, Frankfort; the public is invited to attend the ceremony presenting the state's highest awards in the arts.
- Business, marketing and performance workshops for artists. Events made possible in part by a grant addressing careers for artists with disabilities from the National Arts and Disability Center at UCLA.

The creative industries mean big business in Kentucky. The state has more than 8,000 arts-related businesses and entrepreneurs that employ more than 27,000 people.

According to the U.S. Department of Commerce Bureau of Economic Analysis, performing arts, museums and related activities contribute \$427 million of Kentucky's annual gross state product.

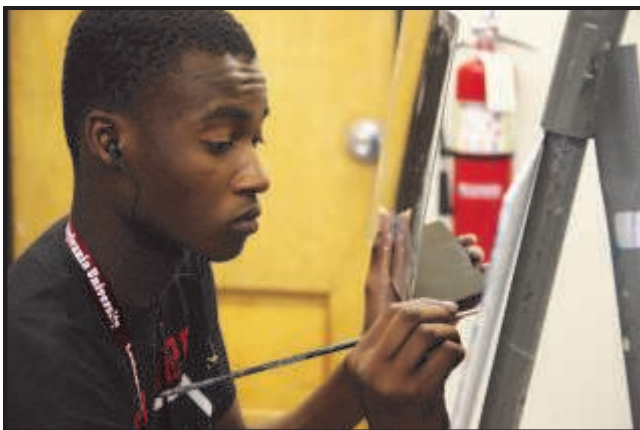
"The arts impact our lives in many ways," said Meadows. "They stimulate economic growth, create jobs and build a better workforce. The arts bring beauty into our lives and illustrate the history of our humanity. What's not to celebrate?"

[National Arts and Humanities Month](#), coordinated by [Americans for the Arts](#), encourages Americans to explore new facets of the arts and humanities in their lives and begin a lifelong habit of active participation in the arts and humanities.

**ArtsEd
Fact**

[Research suggests](#) a positive relationship between participation in music, visual art and drama programs and changes in behavior for students from early learning through high school. For example, middle school students who participated in drama and visual arts based programs had fewer emotional and behavioral problems than comparison students and were found to be less likely to engage in risky, delinquent and/or violent behavior ([Wright et al., 2006](#); [Respress & Lufti, 2006](#)).

GSA ArtShops and Auditions



The Governor's School for the Arts is accepting registration for ArtShops throughout the state and applications for the summer program. Come to ArtShop to work with nationally renowned faculty and guest artists on your GSA audition. Then, apply for the summer program.

Dates and locations for GSA activities this year are:

ArtShops

- November 3: Morehead State University

- November 10: Transylvania University, Lexington

- November 17: Sacred Heart School for the Arts, Louisville

- November 17: Owensboro High School

Heart School for the Arts, Louisville

- March 22 & 23: Murray State University

Summer Program: Transylvania University

June 23 – July 13, 2013

Go to the website for all registration and application materials:

www.kentuckygsa.org

(Photos courtesy of GSA)

Deadline to apply to summer program: December 31

Auditions

- March 1 & 2: Morehead State University
- March 8 & 9: Transylvania University, Lexington
- March 15 & 16: Sacred



SEADAE releases report on roles of arts educators

[Roles of Certified Arts Educators, Certified Non-Arts Educators, & Providers of Supplemental Arts Instruction](#) (by Lauren Kapalka Richerme, Scott C. Shuler, and Marcia McCaffrey, with Debora Hansen and Lynn Tuttle) is a powerful new resource for policymakers and everyone involved in arts education, recently released by the State Education Agency Directors of Arts Education ([SEADAE](#)).

As its title suggests, this meticulously documented publication

outlines the training, experience, and skills that each of these



three key partners contributes to ensuring a high-quality, sequen-

tial, standards-based arts education for all of America's children. An eloquent forward by Rachel Goslins, executive director of the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities, highlights how the principles outlined in this SEADAE document can help our nation realize the vision of universal access to arts education outlined in the recently released [PCAH report](#). *Roles* concludes by offering recommendations to the field for more effective educational collaborations and advocacy.

Marching bands gear up for 27th annual championships



(photo courtesy of KMEA)

Shelia O’Nan of Hurst Music Company, KDE Associate Commissioner Larry Stinson, KMEA President David Dunevant and KMEA Executive Director John Stroube present the 2011 championship award to the drum major from LaRue County High School.

The 2012 Kentucky Music Educators Association (KMEA) State Marching Band Championships (SMBC) will be hosted on Saturday, October 27 by Western Kentucky University at the Houchens Industries L.T. Smith Stadium. One hundred twenty-two high school bands from 84 of Kentucky’s 120 counties are participating in this year’s events leading to the state finals.

The KMEA State Marching Band Competition is a showcase for music education in Kentucky. This year marks 27 years of marching excellence culminating in the KMEA State Marching Band Championships. The SMBC is the end of the season for over 8,000 students and their school marching bands.

Weeks of focused student effort by these students lead to an artistic product that demands great intellect, physical skill and artistic expression. The hours of rehearsals improve performance skills, creative thinking abilities,

collaborative skills and attitudes that will contribute to the success of these young people regardless of the career path they choose. Most of all, the lessons and skills learned will add balance and richness to the students’ life experiences, equipping them to be life-long participants in music-making and supporters of music. Stu-

dents performances at the event are exciting for the audience, and the experience creates memories for the young musicians that last well into adulthood.

To qualify for the state championships, bands must perform in at least two of the 52 KMEA-sanctioned contests scheduled throughout the state between September 7 through October 13. Each qualifying band will then compete in the Regional Quarterfinal competitions. Regional Quarterfinals are held on October 20th in six locations, three in the eastern part of the state and three in the western part of the state.

- Class A East and AAAA East – Madison Southern High School
- Classes AA and AAA East – Bourbon County High School
- Class AAAAA East – Montgomery County High School
- Class A and AAAA West – Hopkinsville High School
- Class AA and AAAAA West –

Muhlenberg County High School

- Class AAA West – Hart County High School

The top eight bands from each regional competition – a total of 16 bands in each class – will meet for semi-finals competition on October 27 at the following locations, all of which are in the Bowling Green area and surrounding counties:

- Class A – Warren Central High School
- Class AA – Greenwood High School
- Class AAA – Allen County-Scottsville High School
- Class AAAAA – Barren County High School
- Class AAAAA – Western Kentucky University Houchens Industries L.T. Smith Stadium

The top-four scoring bands in each class will move on to the finals competition to begin at 6 p.m. CT on October 27 at the Western Kentucky University Houchens Industries L.T. Smith Stadium. The event will conclude with the naming of a state champion in each class.

Tickets for October 20 regional competitions are \$10 and can be purchased at each event site. Tickets for the October 27 semi-finals are \$10 and finals are \$12 and \$17 and can be purchased in advance through KMEA or at the event sites. For more information or to purchase tickets, contact KMEA at (859) 626-5635 or log on to www.kmea.org, where you will find ticket information and order forms.

National PTA Reflections Program



The National
Parent Teacher
Association
(PTA) Reflec-
tions Program

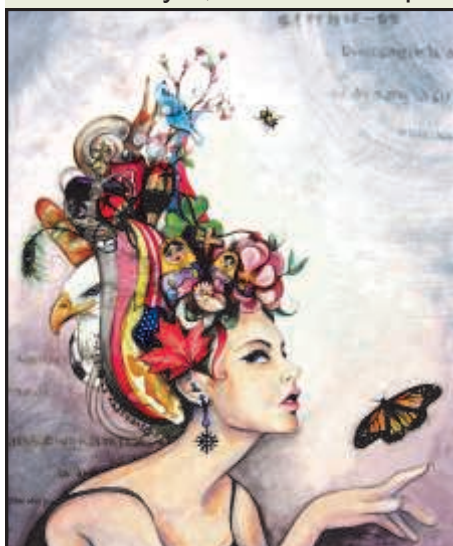
provides students the opportuni-
ty to showcase their creativity



Senior Division, Award of Merit, Pho-
tography, Nicole Nesbit, Boone Co
High School

and talent in six arts areas: visu-
al arts, photography, literature,
film production, music composi-
tion and dance choreography.
The program, for students in
preschool through senior high,
encourages students across the
nation and in American schools
overseas to explore their artistic
talents.

In Kentucky 6,899 students par-



Senior Division, Award of Excellence,
Visual Arts, Sydney Langsdale, Ryle HS,
Boone County



Intermediate Division, Award of Merit, Photography, Sofia DeVenuto, Brandeis Ele-
mentary School, Jefferson County

ticipated in Reflections through
their local PTA or Parent Teach-
er Student Association (PTSA)
during the 2011-12 school year.
This adjudicated program has
four levels – local PTA/PTSA,
PTA district, Kentucky PTA and
National PTA. Each year Ken-
tucky PTA is allowed to send 30
entries to the national level.
This past school year, seven
Kentucky students received
NPTA awards.

Award of Excellence

- Music Composition – Ainsley Hoh, Mann Elementary, Boone County
- Photography – Claire Dzan, Crosby Middle, Jefferson County
- Visual Arts – Sydney Langsdale, Ryle High, Boone County

Award of Merit

- Literature – Sabrina Almeida, Twenhofel Middle, Kenton County
- Photography – Nicole Nesbit, Boone County High
- Photography – Sofia DeVenuto, Brandeis Elementary, Jefferson County
- Visual Arts – Shayda Alsalihi, Liberty Elementary, Fayette County

A Special Artist Division has
been added to the NPTA level
beginning in the 2012-13 school
year. KY PTA has had a Special



Primary Division, Award of Merit, Visual
Arts, Shayda Alsalihi, Liberty Elemen-
tary, Fayette County Schools.

Needs Division for a number of
years and will now be able to
forward Kentucky students' work
to the national level.

The NPTA Reflections Gallery
may be viewed at www.pta.org/reflections. If you have ques-
tions or are interested in starting
the Reflections Program, in con-
junction with your PTA/PTSA at
your school, contact KY PTA at
(502) 226-6607 or kyptapat-tyh@bellsouth.net.



Middle Division, Award of Excellence,
Photography, Claire Dzan, Crosby Mid-
dle School, Jefferson County

2013 Kentucky Children's Chorus

The conductor for the 2013 Kentucky Children's Chorus (KCC) will be Fernando Malvar-Ruiz, Music Director for the American Boychoir.

Malvar-Ruiz was appointed Litton-Lodal Music Director of The American Boychoir in 2004 and has toured



with the Choir to 30 states and Canada. He prepared the choir for performances at the YouthAIDS Benefit Gala, the 77th Annual Academy Awards Ceremony, the Tanglewood Music Festival, the nationally televised U.S. Open Tennis Tournament Women's Finals and for performances with the Boston Symphony Orchestra and the Philadelphia Orchestra.

Malvar-Ruiz, a native of Spain, began his study of music at the age of 10. He received bachelor's degrees in piano performance and music theory from the Real Conservatorio Superior de Música in Madrid. He also attended the Kodály Institute in Kécskemet, Hungary, where he was awarded the Sharolta Kodály scholarship by unanimous decision of the faculty.

The repertoire for the 2013 Kentucky Children's Chorus is:

- "Panis Angelicus," César Franck, Arranged by Pierre Gouin
- "Cirandeiro" (Join the Dance), Brazilian Folk Song, Arranged by Brad Green

- "This Little Light of Mine," Traditional Spiritual, Arranged by Ken Berg
- "Quiet Sea," Melissa Malvar-Keylock/Jill Friedersdorf
- "Shine on Me," Traditional Spiritual, Arranged by Rollo Dilworth

Additional information including parts, publisher and order numbers, will be posted on the [KCC website](#).

The deadlines for this year's Kentucky Children's Chorus are:

- 11/01/12 – KCC auditions and fees due
- 11/29/12 – targeted release of audition results
- 12/06/12 – KCC registration and fees due
- 12/13/12 – KCC student medical forms, permission forms and behavior contracts due
- 12/13/12 – KCC Housing Registration Due

The audition piece for this year's Kentucky Children's Chorus is "Panis Angelicus," César Franck, Arranged by Pierre Gouin. This piece is available to download and print for free through [http://erato.uvt.nl/files/imglnks/usimg/f/f6/IMSLP130022-WIMA.fb5a-Franck Panis angelicus.pdf](http://erato.uvt.nl/files/imglnks/usimg/f/f6/IMSLP130022-WIMA.fb5a-Franck_Panis_angelicus.pdf).

The recorded audition will begin at measure 11 with two measures of piano introduction. The voice will enter at measure 13 and will continue through measure 32. The audition will conclude in measure 32. To end the audition, the accompanist may substitute a G Major chord on count 1 of measure 33 in

place of the written accompaniment which leads to the next section. The tempo marking is indicated as *poco lento*. For consistency, the audition should be recorded at a tempo of approximately 60-70 bpm.

A recorded piano accompaniment that may be used for the audition is available on the [KCC](#) portion of the [Kentucky Music Educators Association \(KMEA\)](#) website. Rehearsal recordings of all pieces in the repertoire are also available on the website. The remaining portion of the audition will remain the same as in years past, including the phrases that are to be recorded.

While the recorded portion of the audition will be similar to years past, the audition procedure itself has changed. This year, no auditions may be submitted via CD or cassette; all auditions must be submitted in digital format as an mp3 file via the KMEA website. The benefits of switching to the online system include:

- submission of audition recordings and all registration information online
- no Excel documents to complete
- no trips to the post office or expensive overnight deliveries to make
- use of 21st-century skills
- KMEA and your school going green

The new system will allow you to enter all information online via

(continued on page 5...)

2013 KCC

(...continued from page 4)
drop-down boxes and data entry boxes. Schools also will submit audition recordings in mp3 format on the same system. KMEA will make it available for a trial run before the actual audition window opens.

Specific instructions, a tutorial along with ideas, suggestions, a list of free software and more to assist in completion of this process will be posted online on the [KCC](#) portion of the KMEA website. Further, your school's or district's IT department also may be a great source of help.

Submitting digital auditions also allows KCC to move to a double-blind judging process. While the scoring rubric will remain the

same as in years past, six judges instead of three will review each school's audition.

Each audition will be judged by two judges, and the scores will be combined to get the total score for each student. The students will be randomly assigned by the computer, so even students from the same school may be judged by different judges.

Additionally, all auditions will now be totally blind. The judges will not know the school, the teacher or the district. The judges will see nothing other than the student's name, and the only information they will hear on the recording is the student's name spoken directly by the student. No teacher will be permitted to

speak on the recording at all. There will be specific instructions regarding the recording procedure on the website soon.

KMEA is in the process of updating the website with all necessary information. The information listed above should give you enough to begin preparing your students on the selected audition piece.

For more information, contact [Jon M. Oliver](#), coordinator, Kentucky Children's Chorus, Kentucky Music Educators Association.

New Features Available on ArtsEdSearch.org

Since its launch in April, [ArtsEdSearch.org](#) has been growing and improving. Some new features that will make it an even more valuable resource to the field:

- **Social Sharing:** E-mail content to a friend, "like" a specific page on Facebook or tweet findings and content through Twitter.
- **Bookmarks:** Sign in to

ArtsEdSearch using your LinkedIn account. When signed in, you can bookmark interesting ArtsEdSearch content to be stored for future visits under the new "My Bookmarks" tab.

- **Discussions:** A "Discussions" forum section to ArtsEdSearch where users can

discuss ArtsEdSearch content. Use your LinkedIn account to sign in to the forum, read discussion threads, reply to posts and start new conversations. You also can click on other users' names and connect to one another directly through LinkedIn.



Beginning at the elementary level and continuing through adult learning, [research finds](#) that arts participation increases student confidence and self-efficacy. Drama, music, visual art and media arts were all found to increase self-efficacy and/or confidence for all students, including ELL students and disadvantaged or delinquent teens.

U of L African American music workshop

The University of Louisville invites teachers to bring their music students to a special music workshop program at the UofL School of Music. This will be an excellent introduction to African American music and the culture that has created it. It is also provides a unique opportunity to celebration Black History Month and address arts and diversity. This event is one of several being presented by the UofL School of Music this year.

On Tuesday, February 12, 2013, at 10 a.m. ET, the UofL School of Music will present an educational workshop on the heritage of the African American musical tradition. Guest artists *The Imani Winds* will be the presenters. The presentation will feature music by African American composers and demonstration of musical instruments that will help students understand the arts and sound of the genre.

This event is part of the 17th Annual African American Music Heritage Institute, which is presented by the UofL School of Music in cooperation with several other campus organizations.

The workshop lasts for 75 minutes and is suitable for upper elementary, middle school and high school students and will be held in the School of Music Comstock Concert Hall at 1st & Brandeis on the Belknap Campus of UofL. There will be a nominal charge of \$3 per student for the workshop. Please pay by one check made payable to the UofL School of Music with AAMHI as a notation.

Should there be an issue with weather, the UofL School of Music will make every effort to reschedule the workshop.

The Imani Winds also will perform for the general public on February 11 at 8 p.m. ET in the

Comstock Concert Hall at the School of Music. There is a \$5 admission charge for the evening event. Teachers and students are encouraged to attend the evening performance even if they are unable to attend the workshop.

A study guide will be made available to teachers so that students will have an opportunity for pre-study and follow-up study about African American Music.

A registration form for the workshop is available online at music.louisville.edu. Be sure to make reservations early, as space will be limited.

Please contact Jerry Tolson at the UofL School of Music for questions regarding this event, at (502) 852-6972 or e-mail jerry.tolson@louisville.edu.

Research grants available from the National Endowment for the Arts



National Endowment for the Arts

In May 2012, the National Endowment for the Arts awarded grants to 15 research projects to investigate the value and impact of the arts in the United States. These grants, totaling \$250,000, support projects designed to use existing, high-quality datasets to examine novel and significant research questions about the arts. Of the 15 grantees, there were six projects that focus on a variety arts education topics, including a statewide

analysis of the access, equity, quantity, and diversity of arts education in California schools; a study to identify the long-term social and cognitive impacts on children and teenagers who received music training; and a study of the impact of arts programming on the social skills and mental health outcomes of at-risk youth. The May 30, 2012, press release announcing first round of research grants can be found at <http://www.arts.gov/news/news12/Research-grants.html>.

Guidelines for the second round of research applications are now available on the National Endowment for the Arts' website at <http://www.arts.gov/grants/apply/Research/index.html>. The deadline for submitting an application is November 6. The Arts Endowment anticipates awarding up to 25 grants ranging from \$10,000 to \$30,000. Grants do not require matching funds.

If you have questions, please contact the staff at nearesearchgrants@arts.gov.

Continuous Instructional Improvement Technology System (CIITS)

The Kentucky Department of Education is partnering with the [School Improvement Network](#) to provide the [PD 360](#) professional development platform to Kentucky educators for the 2012-13 school year at no charge to school districts.

PD 360 includes more than 2,000 research-based videos and other resources on more than 125 topics. The videos feature nationally recognized experts, presenters and researchers as well as thousands of real teachers in actual classrooms using the best practices proven to increase achievement.

PD 360 is also home to the world's largest online professional learning community – comprised of nearly one million educators.

In addition to PD 360, Kentucky

educators will have access to Heidi Hayes Jacobs' [Mapping to the Core interactive learning tool](#) on the LiveBook 360 platform. This resource, along with [Common Core 360](#), which Kentucky teachers have had access to since last school year, provides videos and support for teachers implementing the Common Core State Standards in English/ language arts and mathematics. These resources are available to all public school educators through [CIITS](#) and support the new [Professional Growth and Effectiveness System](#), which is now being piloted in more than 50 school districts across Kentucky.

CIITS users should contact the [School Improvement Network](#) for log-in information for PD 360 and other resources.

With thousands of instructional

materials and assessment items in CIITS, occasionally teachers will discover a resource they feel is “problematic.” KDE has a process in place to review the resource and change or remove it, if needed.

The process starts with educators providing the CIITS team with some information through the [Item Issues Report Form](#), which can be found under CIITS Support/Resources on the left side of the CIITS homepage. E-mail the completed form to kdeciits-mailbox@education.ky.gov. The appropriate KDE content specialist will review the item and make a recommendation to the Curriculum and Instruction team, which will determine what action should be taken. We hope this process will help ensure correctly aligned, quality content in CIITS.



Need to Know News

New app provides instant access to education information



A new app for iPhones, iPads

and iPods compiles content from the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) to enhance communications on education-related matters across the state.

The free KDE News app is available through iTunes [here](#). The app is designed to provide users with immediate access to many items housed on the KDE [web-site](#), including:

- Kentucky Teacher Magazine
- Messages to Superintendents and Teachers
- Headlines
- Education Commissioner Terry Holliday's Blog
- Videos
- Kentucky Education Technology System (KETS) Tech Tips
- Photo Gallery

This app is the latest in a line of technology products from KDE to help the agency share information and provide transparency. A Windows Mobile version of the app also is in development.



CIITS

Kentucky's Continuous Instructional Improvement Technology System (CIITS) continues to

Questions about arts education in Kentucky? Contact the KDE Arts and Humanities Consultant
Robert Duncan
(502)564-2106

Robert.duncan@education.ky.gov

grow and become a more powerful tool for classroom teachers. It connects and supports the Unbridled Learning work in which we are all engaged. CIITS is an integrated system that brings together implementation of new standards, engaging student learning experiences, assessments for learning, data-driven decision-making and differentiated instruction to meet individual student needs and maximize student learning growth and achievement. This technology platform supports highly-effective teaching and learning for every student, in every classroom throughout Kentucky.

If you haven't delved into CIITS or visited for a while, now is the time. You can access CIITS if you have a valid school e-mail address in Infinite Campus. Go to the CIITS website at <https://ciits.kyschools.us> and follow the prompts to receive your log-in credentials. Once you log in, there are self-directed training materials and videos on the left side of the homepage to help you get started. Don't wait any longer. Give CIITS a try today.



Kentucky Teacher

The Kentucky Department of

Education (KDE) publishes [Kentucky Teacher](#) to communicate directly with the state's 40,000 public school teachers. The stories of this award-winning publication include news, perspectives, and practical, workable ideas for guiding students to higher levels of achievement. [Kentucky Teacher](#) is a professional development tool for teachers. As such, it focuses on the work of highly qualified, successful educators to improve teaching and learning in Kentucky schools.

[Kentucky Teacher](#) also focuses on items related to the Department of Education's and Kentucky Board of Education's work including Senate Bill 1, strategic plans and more.

You can read archived issues of the print edition of [Kentucky Teacher](#) on the [KDE website](#).

PBS Lessons Resource



Make lesson plans with PBS *LearningMedia*! Teachers may [Sign up today](#) for access to thousands of FREE classroom-ready, contextualized lesson plans, videos, and interactives from over 90 content contributors including [the National Archives](#), [NPR](#) and [NASA](#). Arts teachers will find several entries for all the disciplines.

Need to Know News



SEADAE seeking student work

The State Education Agency Directors of Arts Education (SEADAE) will begin a gallery of changing images of student artwork on its website. Please send images of student work, students in action or arts teachers in the classroom, including dance, drama, music and visual arts to KDE Arts and Humanities Consultant Robert Duncan, robert.duncan@education.ky.gov, to be forwarded to SEADAE for consideration. Make certain that all of the proper photo releases and permissions are in place and you have full rights to the image. Photos must be of high quality and resolution and show the great things that are happening in Kentucky schools on a daily basis. Out-of-focus, poorly lit, low-quality photos will not be considered for forwarding to SEADAE. Photos are subject to cropping and other minor edits that will not compromise the overall composition.



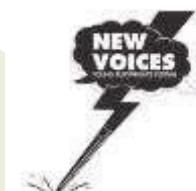
Call for Student Artwork

VSA Kentucky is extending a Call for Art to students with disabilities in Kentucky schools, grades K-12. Selected artwork will be included in the Student Traveling Exhibition called *A Matter of Perspective*. The goal is to recognize and share the artistic accomplishments of students in the visual arts throughout the state.

A Matter of Perspective is an

annual exhibition comprised of original artwork created by students with disabilities that is available to schools, museums, businesses, libraries and hospitals across the Commonwealth. In addition to the exhibit, VSA Kentucky will provide an educational packet of activities that helps students understand and appreciate the artwork, making the exhibit an interactive experience. The exhibition opens in November at the Exceptional Children's Conference at the Galt House in Louisville before traveling to other locations including the Capital Plaza Tower in Frankfort.

For more information or to download entry forms visit the VSA Kentucky our website at www.vsartsky.org, email at vsaky@bellsouth.net, or phone at (270) 781-0872.



New Voices Play Contest

Actors Theatre of Louisville is seeking submissions from young writers for our *New Voices Ten-Minute Play Contest*. Students grades 6-12 living in the Commonwealth of Kentucky or the 812 area code of southern Indiana are invited to submit their very best ten-minute play by October 31.

Winning plays will be fully produced at Actors Theatre of Louisville in April of 2013 and will be published in the *New Voices Anthology*.

All entries must include a cover

sheet which can be found, along with guidelines, tips, examples and more submission details at Actorstheatre.org/newvoices. You may also e-mail any questions to Newvoices@Actorstheatre.org.

Learn more about the New Voices Young Playwrights Festival

[Watch a short video](#) to get the inside scoop on the New Voices process.

"The World's a Place of Living Things" Art Contest

The Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) invites young scientists and artists to explore biodiversity. Students in grades 2-4 are encouraged to learn more about the forms of life in a particular place -- what types of life can be seen? What types of life are hard to see? Do the different types of life interact with each other?

Students should investigate these questions, and create a piece of artwork (no larger than 16"x20") to show what they have learned. First-, second- and third-place artists will receive a \$100, \$75 and \$50 gift card, respectively, framed color certificates and their artwork will be showcased on the IGES website. For more information, visit <http://www.strategies.org/artcontest>.

Questions about this opportunity should be directed to info@strategies.org.